

March 22, 1979

LB 94

your amendment it says it shall be in writing and they can't reach the family, then what?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It says, or verbal.

SENATOR MARESH: What if they can't reach the family, then what?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then you handle a body which is unclaimed in the way that unclaimed bodies are handled. They can put it in the cooler which most hospitals have and they don't have to embalm it. As a matter of fact, you can delay embalming for cremation for up to seventy-two hours if you keep it in a cooler. Then after that you have twenty-four additional hours to cremate it and you don't run afoul of any embalming requirements. So they could put it in the cooler and hold it there.

SENATOR MARESH: That is the problem. I was told that the local hospital has no cooling room and neither does the funeral parlor.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then if you had those situations, they would be allowable but they are not mandated by law.

SENATOR MARESH: Then shouldn't your amendment state that unless conditions are such that the body can be preserved that this does not apply or something like that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you are concerned about that, Senator Maresh, I have no objection whatsoever to an amendment covering those kinds of situations.

SENATOR MARESH: What does embalming cost, do you know?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There is no way to get the price. It depends on where you go.

SENATOR MARESH: I do have the price. It is \$85 I was told.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, it can go as high as two or three hundred dollars.

SENATOR MARESH: That is for removing the body and providing the facilities and all that they do now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Maresh, that is what we need these lists for because they charge differently. One might tell you when they say embalming that includes moving